STATISTICS OF CONGENITAL CARDIAC DISEASE.

(400 Cases Analyzed.)*

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The subject of congenital cardiac disease is one that lends itself well to statistical study, for the conditions, being often complex and of recognized rarity, are usually reported in much detail. Moreover, the cases are so infrequent in any one person's experience that some such method as this, of making use of the available literature, must be adopted in order to arrive at any generalizations.

For another purpose, I have had occasion to make a detailed statistical study of some four hundred and twelve cardiac defects. A few of these are drawn from personal experience, the remainder from the literature. Only well-authenticated cases with post-mortem report attached have been included. The only exception to this statement is formed by three cases included in the series of patent ductus arteriosus diagnosed by characteristic physical signs and by the X-Rays and not confirmed by post-mortem. The results of the analysis of four hundred of these cases are shown in the accompanying chart. This chart is presented here merely as a demonstration of the manner in which these defects were studied, and without any intention of entering at length into the figures. It represents a chart which was originally printed for the analysis of the individual defect, and is here modified in a few particulars to admit of the presentation of the total results obtained.

The chart presents four main divisions. The First Division includes the Classification of the defect, Number of cases analyzed, Age, and Sex. In the classification a simple anatomical order has been followed, based also on the

* Presented before the Association of Pathologists and Bacteriologists at Ann Arbor, Mich., April 18, 1908. Received for publication May 1, 1908.